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Michigan State House
Local Government Committee

RE: Opposition to HB 4105 and HB 4334

I am writing to express my opposition to the introduction and passage of HB 4105 and HB 4334. Police Officers should not be required to check immigration status and Sanctuary Cities should not lose funding for providing protection for their immigrant communities.

According to the Michigan Farm Bureau, there was a 14-fold increase in 2016 in the number of foreign agricultural workers cleared to work in Michigan compared to 2011. Agricultural labor is 22% of Michigan's entire labor force (according to MDARD). Passing HB 4105 and HB 4334 would negatively affect our ability to attract migrant and immigrant workers and maintain economic competitiveness.

As a farmer and community member in this state, I am gravely concerned that any such legislation would deeply tarnish Michigan's reputation as open and friendly to agriculture and families. Attracting competent and capable farm labor is extremely difficult and our state relies heavily on immigrants and migrant laborers to harvest our crops and take care of our livestock.

I strongly oppose HB 4105 and HB 4334 and any other bills that would create fear and concerns about working in Michigan. I exhort the Michigan legislature and the Governor to not consider any such legislation.

Instead, I urge you to support your farmers and your migrant and immigrant communities to strengthen Michigan's agricultural businesses and our farming communities.

Sincerely,

Joannée DeBruhl, Owner and Farm Manager
Stone Coop Farm